

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15
IO-14 ARA-14 EUR-12 HA-05 /115 W
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R 250840Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7790
INFO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
CINCPAC

UNCLAS ADDIS ABABA 1380

DEPT PASS HORN OF AFRICA COLLECTIVE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PBOR, ET, SO
SUBJECT: CONVENTIONAL WAR IN OGADEN IS OVER

1. ETHIOPIAN NATIONAL REVOLUTIONARY OPERATIONS COMMAND (NROC) ANNOUNCED MARCH 24 THAT ETHIOPIAN FORCES HAD CLEARED ENTIRE SOUTHERN FRONT OF ALL SOMALI TROOPS. THE FORCES HAD RE-ESTABLISHED FULL CONTROL IN THE ENTIRE SECTOR AND WERE NOW ENGAGED IN RESTORING NORMALCY AND REHABILITATING WAR VICTIMS. NROC CLAIMED THAT ETHIOPIANS RECAPTURED IMI (ON BALE-HARARGHE PROVINCIAL BORDER) MARCH 19 AND SOUTHERN BALE TOWN OF BARE, NEAR SOMALI BORDER ON MARCH 23, THUS COMPLETING CONVENTIONAL WAR WITH SOMALIA.

2. COMPANION ARTICLE IN MARCH 25 ETHIOPIAN HERALD DESCRIBED ENORMOUS DESTRUCTION BY SOMALIS OF TOWN OF GODE, A MAJOR RESETTLEMENT PROJECT IN SOUTHERN OGADEN AREA AND LOCATION OF STRATEGIC AIRFIELD. ARTICLE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY PHOTOGRAPHS SHOWING CONDITIONS BEFORE AND AFTER SOMALI INVASION. ETHIOPIAN MEDIA CONTINUING TO DRAW ATTENTION TO EXTENSIVE DAMAGE
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CAUSED BY THE SOMALI INVASION TO PROPERTY, RESETTLEMENT AND HUMANITARIAN PROJECTS, AND THE ALMOST TOTAL DISRUPTION OF THE LIVES OF ETHIOPIAN CITIZENS IN OGADEN AREA.

3. IT IS PROBABLE THAT DURING THE PERIOD WHEN ETHIOPIANS ARE WORKING TO REHABILITATE WAR-AFFECTED AREAS, ANTI-SOMALI

CAMPAIGN WILL CONTINUE VIGOROUSLY. WHILE CONVENTIONAL WARFARE HAS ENDED IN OGADEN, IT IS LIKELY THAT SOME FORM OF SHIFTA (BANDIT) ACTIVITY WILL RESUME IN NEAR FUTURE, ESPECIALLY GIVEN PUBLIC COMMITMENT BY WESTERN SOMALI AND SOMALI ABO LIBERATION FRONTS TO CONTINUE THEIR STRUGGLE. MATHERON

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE COLLECTIVE.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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